

His Fear of a Papist Persecution.

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gif your Grace knows nocht that the obstinat Papistis ar deidlie ennemeis to all sick as profess the Evangill of Jesus Christ, and that thai moist eirnistlie desyre the exterminatioun of thame, and of the trew doctrine that is taucht within this Realme ? "

The queen, proceeds the " History," held her peace, but all the lords, with common voice, said, " God forbid that either the lyves of the faythfull, or yet the staying of the doctrine, stud in the power of the Papistis; for just experince hes tauld us what creweltie lyes in thair hertis."

" I maun proceid then," continued Knox, " seeing that I persaif that all will grant that it wer ane barbarous creweltie to destroy sick ane multitude as profess the Evangell of Jesus Christ within this realme, quhilk ofter then anis or twyse thai haif tempit to do be force, as thingis done of lait dayis do testify, quhairof thay, by God and his providence, being dissa-pointed, haif inventit moir craftie and daingerous practises, to wit, to mak the prince pairtie under cullour of law ; and so what they could not do be oppin force, thai sail perform be craftie deceat. For who thinkis, my lordis, that the insatiable crewaltie of the Papistis sail end in the murthering of these two bretherin now injustlie summond, and moir unjustlie to be accusit ? I think no man of judgment can sa esteeme, but rayther the direct contrair, that is, that by this few noumer thai intend to prepair a way to thair bloodie inter-prises aganis the whole. And thairfoir, Madam, cast up when ye list the Actis of your Parliament, I haif offendit nathing aganis thame ; I accuse nocht in my letter your Grace, nor yitt your natoure of creweltie. But I affirm yet agane that the pestilent papistis quho have inflamit your Grace without cans againis these poor men at this present ar the sonis of the devill, and thairfoir maun obey the desires of thair father quho hes bene ane liar and ane murtherour from the begyning."

" Ye forget yourself,³³ said somebody, " ye are not now in the pulpit."

" I am in the place," was the retort, " quhair I am demandit of conscience to speik the treuth, and thairfoir I speik. The treuth I speik, impung it quhoso list And heirunto I add, Madam, that honest, Gentill, and weik naturis, by wickit and